

Spanish Flu of 1918-19

Condensed from the Oral Histories of LaDrue Dorton

Perhaps I should begin with those things I cannot remember. In December of 1918 our family, consisting of my father, Basil J. Dorton, my Mother, Reta Evans Dorton, my baby sister Glenda, and I were living in Garfield, Utah. The entire family contracted the Spanish flu and we were all hospitalized. My Mother did not survive.

When my father was released from the hospital he lived with his parents during his convalescence and later moved to Ferron, Utah, to teach school.

When Glenda and I were released from the hospital, we were placed under the care of my Mother's parents and sisters. Glenda was taken by Aunt Juliet Goates, (I don't know if you ever remember her...she used to do hemstitching for a living and eventually married a man named Taylor) but who was nursing a baby girl, and I lived for a short time with my maternal grandparents, William S. Evans, his wife Geneva, and my Aunt Pearl Watson.

At a later date Glenda was taken by my father's sister, Edna Taylor with her husband, Herbert, to raise as their own. I went to live with my paternal grandparents, Joseph E. Dorton and his wife Martha Ann. These events were related to me by members of my father's and mother's

families over the years.